



**West Virginia Futbol Club**  
**Coaches Code of Conduct**  
**Adopted: 1/15/2015**



The safety, welfare and well-being of our players are the primary concern to all involved with the West Virginia Futbol Club. To promote the basic principles of awareness and protection for all parties involved, WVFC has adopted the following code of conduct for all team officials. WVFC is pleased to institute this new program as it will serve for the benefit of the players, parents, coaches and volunteers of WVFC:

1. The coach must never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with the emphasis on the highest ideals and character traits.
2. In order to protect WVFC Coaching members, volunteers, and program participants—at no time during a WVFC game, practice or other WVFC events will a coaching staff member be alone with a single child where they cannot be observed by others. As staff members supervise players, they should spare themselves in a way that other coaching staff members can see them.
3. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
4. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players
5. Coaches are responsible for their player's actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players
6. Coaching staff members shall never leave any player(s) unsupervised.
7. Coaching staff members must use positive techniques of guidance, including redirection, positive reinforcement and encouragement rather than competition, comparison and criticism. Coaching staff members will have age appropriate expectations and set up guidelines and environments that minimize the need for discipline. Physical restraint is used only in pre-determined situations (necessary to protect the child or other children from harm), is only administered in a prescribed manner and must be documented in writing.
8. Coaching staff member will respond to youth with respect and consideration and treat all children equally regardless of sex, race, religion, culture.
9. Coaching staff members will respect children's rights to not be touched in ways that make them feel uncomfortable, and their right to say no.
10. Coaching staff members will refrain from intimate displays of affection towards others in the presence of children, parents, and coaching staff members.
11. Coaching staff members must appear clean, neat, and appropriately attired.
12. Coaches have an ethical obligation to be forthright and refrain from making derogatory remarks regarding other coaches, teams, players, or organizations when discussing the advantages of his/her organization.
13. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs during working hours is prohibited.
14. Smoking, use of tobacco or electronic cigarettes in the presence of children or parents during working hours is prohibited.
15. Profanity, obscene gestures inappropriate jokes, sharing intimate details of one's personal life or other threatening language, and any kind of harassment in the presence of children, players, parents, officials, or WVFC staff or personnel is strictly prohibited.
16. Coaching staff members will portray a positive role model for youth by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, courtesy, tact, and maturity.
17. Coaches shall refrain from any other material or intentional act, conduct or omission not provided above, which is detrimental to the image or reputation of WVFC or the sport of soccer
18. Demands of players' time should never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals and progress. Motivation for excellence should include academics, as well as athletics.
19. Coaching staff members are not to transport children in their own vehicles if the child is by himself or herself.
20. Coaching staff members may not date program participants or parents of players for the team which coaching staff members have been assigned to coach.
21. Under no circumstances should coaching staff members release children to anyone other than the authorized parent, guardian, or other adult authorized by the parent or guardian (written parent authorization on file with WVFC).
22. Coaching staff members are required to report known or suspected instances of child abuse and understand that not doing so may be considered a misdemeanor.
23. Coaching will not be allowed to privately train currently rostered players on their own team during the playing season as defined in the WVFC By-laws.

**Coaches Code of Conduct, p. 2 (cont'd)**

24. Coaches will not be allowed to coach work for or operate a competing organization to WVFC and its mission at any time, without prior authorization from the Player Development Committee and WVFC Executive Board.
25. At no time will you openly recruit players currently rostered on another team in WVSA. Calls, texts emails or any other method of solicitation is not permitted. Players rostered with other clubs cannot participate in any WVFC activity without prior approval from such club
26. Coaches must never encourage players to violate WVSA recruitment eligibility or guest player rules and policies.

You should immediately notify the WVFC President if you feel that you have been the victim of discrimination or if you have been unlawfully harassed at work, or if you feel that a fellow employee is being unlawfully harassed.

If possible, such notice should be in writing (signed and dated), stating the date, place, time, nature of harassment, and the name(s) and position(s) of the offending party and any witnesses to the alleged harassment.

If you feel the President may be involved in any way, or believe that for some other reason the President cannot be approached, then you may make your complaints directly to Vice-President or a member of the executive board.

I understand that any violation of this Code of Conduct may result in suspension and/or termination.

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Coach

Date

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WVFC President

Date